

**ALARACT 296/2011**

**DTG: R 051425Z AUG 11**

UNCLASSIFIED//

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT BY THE PENTAGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON BEHALF OF DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-MSO//

SUBJECT: PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (SPICE IN VARIATIONS)

1. REFERENCES:

- A. AR 600-85, ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM, RAPID ACTION REVISION (RAR), 2 DECEMBER 2009
- B. SECRETARY OF THE ARMY MEMORANDUM/PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES (SPICE IN VARIATIONS)/10 FEBRUARY 2011
- C. FEDERAL REGISTER VOLUME 76, NO 40/ 21 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR) PART 1308/ SCHEDULES OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES: TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF FIVE SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS INTO SCHEDULE 1/1 MARCH 2011

2. THIS POLICY IS APPLICABLE TO THE ACTIVE ARMY, THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES WHEN IN TITLE 10 STATUS AND THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE. THIS POLICY IS PUNITIVE AND VIOLATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS POLICY MAY RESULT IN PUNITIVE ACTIONS AGAINST SERVICE MEMBERS. THIS POLICY DOES NOT APPLY TO ALCOHOL, CAFFEINE, TOBACCO OR LAWFULLY-USED PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.

3. SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND OTHER TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL (THC) SUBSTITUTES HAVE NO KNOWN APPLICATION OTHER THAN MIMICKING THE EFFECTS OF THC IN THE HUMAN BODY. NUMEROUS SYNTHETIC THC SUBSTITUTES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE OPEN MARKET IN MANY STATES. SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND THC SUBSTITUTES ARE USED IN DRUGS SUCH AS "SPICE," WHICH IS DESIGNED AND SOLD SOLELY TO BE USED AS A MEANS TO PRODUCE EXCITEMENT, INTOXICATION AND/OR STUPEFACTION OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND THC SUBSTITUTES ARE SO CLOSELY RELATED IN ACTION TO THC AS TO MAKE IT OBVIOUS THAT SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND THC SUBSTITUTES WILL HAVE THE SAME POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE AS THC. IT IS, THEREFORE, REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND THC SUBSTITUTES HAVE SUBSTANTIAL CAPABILITIES OF CREATING HAZARDS TO THE MISSION OF THE ARMY, THE HEALTH OF THE USER AND TO THE SAFETY OF THE ARMY COMMUNITY.

4. ALL PERSONNEL LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE ARE PROHIBITED, WITHOUT PROPER AUTHORIZATION, FROM USING, POSSESSING, MANUFACTURING, SELLING, DISTRIBUTING, IMPORTING INTO OR

EXPORTING FROM THE UNITED STATES, OR INTRODUCING INTO ANY INSTALLATION, VESSEL, VEHICLE, OR AIRCRAFT USED BY OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ARMY, ANY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ANALOGUE OR HOMOLOGUE SUCH AS "SPICE" OR SIMILAR SUBSTANCES CONTAINING SYNTHETIC CANNABIS, ANY THC SUBSTITUTE, OR ANY SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID. THIS PROHIBITION WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT REVISION OF AR 600-85, ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM AND SUCH OTHER REGULATIONS AS REQUIRED.

5. IAW REF B, AR 600-85 WILL BE REVISED AND INTERPRETED TO INCLUDE THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION, VENDING, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF SPICE, SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND CANNABINOIDS.

6. ALL ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM PROFESSIONALS INCLUDING ALCOHOL AND DRUG CONTROL OFFICERS (ADCOS), DRUG TESING COORDINATORS (DTCS) AND PREVENTION COORDINATORS (PCS) WILL NEED TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE NEW ARMY POLICY REGARDING SPICE, SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND ANY SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS. ADCOS AND DTCS SHOULD SERVE AS SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS TO ADVISE COMMANDERS ON THE APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY, TEST PROCEDURES AND RESULTS.

7. COMMANDERS AT ALL LEVELS WILL ENSURE THAT ALL PERSONNEL WITHIN THEIR COMMAND ARE BRIEFED AND EDUCATED REGARDING THE NEW ARMY SPICE, SYNTHETIC CANNABIS AND SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID POLICY IAW REF B. ALLEGATIONS OF USE/POSSESSION OF SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS SHOULD BE HANDLED IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH ALLEGATION OF USE/POSSESSION OF OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

8. IF A COMMANDER RECEIVES INFORMATION THAT PARAGRAPH 4 OF THIS ALARACT HAS BEEN VIOLATED, THEY SHOULD CONTACT THEIR SUPPORTING OSJA AND CID OFFICE TO REQUEST AN INVESTIGATION. IF CID INITIATES A REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (ROI), CID AND THE ARMY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM CAN ASSIST WITH ANY APPLICABLE TESTING PER THE ARMED FORCES MEDICAL EXAMINER SYSTEM (AFMES) POLICY ON SPICE TESTING, DATED 07 FEBRUARY 2011. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SPICE TESTING IS LOCATED AT WWW.ACSAP.ARMY.MIL.

9. POINT OF CONTACT IS DR. LES MCFARLING, DIRECTOR, ARMY CENTER FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS, EMAIL LES.MCFARLING@CONUS.ARMY.MIL, DSN 761-5577/COMM (703) 681-5577.

10. THIS MESSAGE WAS APPROVED BY THE DCS, G-1.

11. EXPIRATION DATE CANNOT BE DETERMINED.